

OREGON CROP WEATHER



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Weather: Warm and dry fall weather continued across the State last week, but precipitation, mostly rain, fell throughout the day Sunday. Overnight temperatures are becoming much cooler, with low temperatures mostly in the thirties and forties, except for South Central Oregon. Burns had the low temperature of nineteen degrees last week. High temperatures were generally in the high seventies and eighties across the State.

Field Crops: Some late grain seeding as season winds down. In Malheur County, sugarbeets were harvested in the Nyssa/Adrian area. Also in Malheur County, most corn for silage has been cut and corn for grain was tested for moisture. Most hay and grain harvesting activities were completed in Klamath County. Fourth cutting of alfalfa was wrapped up in Harney County; alfalfa harvest is all but complete there. Planting of fall grain crops was ongoing in southwest Oregon. Most haying was completed in Jackson County. Planting of perennial ryegrass seed fields continued in Marion County. Herbicide and fertilizer applications continued there as well. Final red clover for seed was harvested in Washington County and winter wheat planting continued there.

Fruit and Nuts: Wine grape harvest was nearly complete in the Willamette Valley; southern Oregon continued to harvest. There were still some late apples and pears picked. Asian pear harvest was winding down in the southern Willamette Valley. Hazelnut harvest was starting to wind down; some growers were starting a second picking. Winterization of berries was ongoing.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were busy with fall projects, plant maintenance, and are actively moving container and balled and burlapped material to the market. Greenhouses are busy with holiday plants and fall outdoor decorative plants.

Vegetables: Fall vegetable harvest continued. Farmers' markets and vegetable stands still have lots vegetables available. Pumpkins and fall winter squash are doing well across western Oregon. Cole crops were doing well in the Willamette Valley and harvest is set to begin. Potato and tomato crops were hurt by late blight in the Willamette Valley. Some late sweet corn was available at roadside stands in Washington County. Potato harvest in Klamath County was near its completion; onion harvest continued there as well.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock continued to look good throughout the State. They were grazing on fall pastures with some supplemental feeding. Pastures and rangeland continued to turn green providing better forage than normal for this time of year. Recent precipitation has improved pastures in many areas and allowed grazing to carry a bigger portion of the feeding load. Seasonal movement of livestock continued as most cattle have now been moved from higher elevation grazing land. Cattle producers continued weaning calves and fall working of herds.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 10/17/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Winter wheat planted (%)	80	60	61	52
Winter wheat emerged (%)	31	14	29	24
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.7	6.8	6.3	n.a.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 10/17/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	7	38	55	—
Subsoil (%)	13	47	40	—

Crop Condition - Week Ending 10/17/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Range & Pasture (%)	4	22	36	36	2

CLACKAMAS: Mostly warm dry weather allowed fall seeding to proceed to near completion. Some late grape harvest. Hazelnut harvest moved toward completion. Strawberry hoeing and cultivation needed to control weed infestations from recent rains. Vegetable harvest of fall crops continued. Pumpkin growers are preparing for the Halloween season. Nurseries are actively moving container, balled, and burlapped material into the market flow. Livestock are in very good condition. Dryland pastures are providing a good volume of feed.

JACKSON: Most of the fruit crop is now harvested, but still some late pears and apples. Of course grape harvests is still being done. Even with the dry weather fall grain crops are being planted with hopes of rain next week. Most haying is now done. Still lots of fall vegetables at farmer's markets, and roadside stands. Lots of pumpkins and fall winter squash and still some corn, peppers, cucumbers, and tomatoes. Greenhouses busy with holiday plants and fall outdoor decorative plants. Nurseries busy with fall projects and plant maintenance. Most all cattle now off of higher range pastures and on irrigated valley pastures. Some fall calving and lots of weaning of spring calves. Most livestock looking fair to good. Some supplemental feeding being done where pastures are used up.

JOSEPHINE: Rain! Wonderful rain! We got some starting Sunday morning! It continues as I write. The dust has settled. Cooler temperatures and humidity! Field crops are all harvested. Still apples, pears, and wine grapes. Nurseries are to winter crops and sales are slow. Livestock and range are definitely looking better. Nice to see green fields again. Truck gardens have pumpkins everywhere and are using some unique marketing skills with their still standing corn and pumpkin patches.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Some winter apples and pears being picked. Asian pears nearing end of harvest. Hazelnuts middle to near end of first harvest, some starting second pick. Yields are moderate and not as good as they looked like earlier. Many nuts are still in the trees. A few late strawberries. Fresh produce slowing down. Tomato and potato crop wiped out due to late blight. Cole crop doing fine. A lot of powdery and downey mildew. Pumpkin crop very nice.

MARION: Continuing to plant some new perennial ryegrass seed fields but planting is winding down. Herbicide and fertilizer applications continued as weather permitted. Not much wheat being planted this fall, but there are still a few fields to seed before the rains set in. A little harvest work yet to complete, including nuts and cole crops. Current rains will slow field work. Fall planted grasses are emerging. Farming is slowing down to a crawl. It is raining today, October 17.

WASHINGTON: Last of red clover for seed harvested. Most field corn ensiled. Pre-emergence sprays were applied to perennial ryegrass plantings. Wheat planting continues. Hazelnut and walnut harvesting winding down. Blueberry pruning and winterizing ongoing. Late sweet corn nearly finished, still some at roadside stands too. Cole crop harvest about to begin. Moving potted shrubs to alternate location. Checking carefully for sudden oak death syndrome. Rains have help pastures carry bigger feeding load. Some supplemental feeding carries on. Farm agricultural burning now being done on permitted days.

EASTERN OREGON

HARNEY: Just finishing fourth crop alfalfa. Exceptional weather has allowed harvest of really good quality third and fourth crops. Shipping continues for calves sold at August video auctions. Fall work being done. Calves being weaned and some cows off to BLM and Forest Service. Received rain showers on Sunday, but the rest of the week was dry and warm.

KLAMATH: Warm fall weather continued. Onion and potato harvest continues. Most harvest activities completed for hay and grain. Potatoes 95 percent done harvesting. Freezing nights at higher elevation slowing pasture growth. Seasonal movement continues.

LAKE: Received some precipitation over the weekend in the form of rain and snow.

MALHEUR: Only sugarbeet and corn are left to harvest. Sugarbeets are being dug in the Nyssa-Adrian region. Most of the silage corn has been cut. Some grain corn is being test harvested for moisture. Most field work has been completed and fall wheat has been planted.

MORROW: The word is that the fall green up is much better than normal, and that there is good fall feed for the most part.

SHERMAN: Late grain seeding continues as season winds down. Some thistle control work in stubble. Watching grain markets and preparing for winter and elk season.

WALLOWA: Good working conditions throughout the week allowed farmers to complete harvest activities and plant fall crops. Rain expected next week.

WASCO: Continued moderate temperatures through the week with rain falling on Sunday. Wheat planting continued when weather permitted. The top soil moisture is adequate for fall grain crop seeding. Field cultivation and fertilization was also active. Most orchard activity is coming to a close. Cattle herds are doing well and a few calves are being weaned.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON - Week Ending October 17, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK'S PRECIPITATION			SEASON CUMULATIVE PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	46	75	58	5	55	33	3.52	2.31	3	9.77	4.16	174	27
Crescent City	47	81	60	5	68	26	0.99	0.01	1	4.36	0.57	115	15
Florence	41	83	58	4	56	21	1.07	-0.17	2	8.60	3.45	167	15
North Bend	45	81	58	4	58	23	1.12	0.19	1	8.35	4.61	223	14
Tillamook	40	80	57	6	53	31	0.96	-0.53	2	11.75	4.68	166	20
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	37	82	60	8	75	50	0.39	-0.24	1	3.12	0.26	109	13
Eugene	40	77	56	2	43	12	0.98	0.31	1	3.89	0.85	128	14
Hillsboro	41	80	60	8	70	47	0.27	-0.32	1	3.02	0.24	109	14
McMinnville	41	82	59	7	67	41	0.29	-0.37	1	3.19	0.11	104	17
Portland AP	48	81	61	7	80	47	0.33	-0.22	1	2.67	-0.30	90	13
Salem	41	79	58	6	57	34	0.52	-0.09	1	3.78	0.91	132	15
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	41	84	60	5	75	30	0.02	-0.47	1	1.04	-0.89	54	6
Medford	40	88	61	6	79	40	0.48	0.18	1	0.89	-0.62	59	4
Roseburg AP	45	77	58	3	60	17	0.58	0.11	1	3.32	1.21	157	13
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	35	79	55	7	38	28	0.00	-0.21	0	0.64	-0.53	55	5
Heppner	39	73	57	6	52	30	0.10	-0.11	1	1.19	-0.13	90	0
Hermiston AP	34	78	58	7	58	37	0.10	-0.04	1	0.44	-0.25	64	6
John Day	33	73	53	3	25	8	0.15	-0.06	1	0.81	-0.49	62	8
Moro	37	79	57	9	51	39	0.06	-0.08	1	0.95	0.07	108	13
Pendleton AP	40	78	61	8	77	53	0.13	-0.06	1	0.70	-0.29	71	7
The Dalles	39	81	61	12	81	67	0.24	0.09	1	0.69	-0.21	77	8
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	29	78	53	6	26	16	0.00	-0.14	0	0.95	0.21	128	6
Burns	19	76	49	4	3	-2	0.07	-0.07	1	0.38	-0.52	42	7
Klamath Falls	29	77	53	4	23	7	0.37	0.15	1	0.44	-0.58	43	4
Lakeview	25	75	51	3	15	3	0.19	-0.07	1	0.28	-0.92	23	3
Redmond	28	80	52	4	19	6	0.07	-0.05	1	0.38	-0.24	61	8
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	23	75	49	2	5	-3	0.01	-0.13	1	0.91	-0.16	85	7
Joseph	31	70	50	7	15	14	0.00	-0.41	0	2.32	0.04	102	11
La Grande AP	30	72	53	4	24	8	0.02	-0.26	1	0.76	-0.80	49	8
Union	29	75	52	4	21	8	0.02	-0.19	1	1.08	-0.46	70	13
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	37	78	56	6	46	26	0.02	-0.12	1	0.33	-0.48	41	4
Rome	30	79	56	7	43	27	0.00	-0.13	0	0.49	-0.37	57	4

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday, September 1, 2004.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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